Efforts to get UNSC seat

†386. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the dialogues held with various countries during June, 2005 and the extent of support to be extended by them to our country for occupying the permanent seat in the UN Security Council and its expansion thereof;

(b) whether Government are considering to put up a proposal on the basis of the dialogues held with the different countries especially wit[1]-, the five permanent member countries in the meeting of General Assembly to be held shortly; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRl RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) The Government has been pursuing India's candidature for permanent membership of the Security Council, and takes up India's case in all its high-level bilateral interactions. India, Brazil, Germany and Japan—now being termed as the Group of Four (G-4) countries—have introduced a Resolution on UN Security Council Reform on July 11, 2005 in the UN General Assembly. The G-4 Resolution, calls for an expansion of the UN Security Council from the present 15 to a total of 25 members, by adding 6 new permanent members and 4 new non-permanent seats. The G-4 Resolution is the result of intense consultations with member-States. While taking into account the various views, the G-4 Resolution aims at securing the widest possible support of the UN membership. The Resolution has been co-sponsored by 31 countries and has the support of a large number of other countries. Discussions with the African Union and other countries are currently underway. In this framework, there is also steady accretion in support of India's candidature for permanent membership of the UN Security Council. Several countries—permanent members as well as others—have expressed support for India's'candidature either in the UN or in the context of bilateral exchanges. Such support is expressed in different forums and forms and it is, therefore, difficult to give a definitive number on countries which have specifically supported India.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi**.**